

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| First Named Inventor: | | § | |
| Katsuya WATANABE, et al. | | § | |
| | | § | |
| Conf. No.: | Not yet assigned. | § | Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned. |
| | | § | |
| Appln. No.: | Not yet assigned. | § | Examiner: Not yet assigned. |
| | | § | |
| Filing Date: | Herewith. | § | Attorney Docket No.: 10407-72US |
| | | § | (A3083MT-US1) |
| Title: | OPTICAL DISC DRIVE | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed references are U.S. counterparts of the Japanese reference cited and discussed at page 2 of the specification.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed documents be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Katsuya WATANABE, et al.

November 25, 2003
(Date)

William H. Schwabe, Reg. No. 25918
for John D. Simmons
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 52,225
Direct Dial: 215-965-1268
E-Mail: jsimmons@akingump.com

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street, Suite 2200
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone No.: 215-965-1200
Fax No.: 215-965-1210

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Enclosures

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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Form PTO/SB/08A | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Application Number | Not yet assigned. |
| | | | | Filing Date | Herewith. |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Katsuya WATANABE, et al. |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | Not yet assigned. |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not yet assigned. |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 10407-72US (A3083MT-US1) |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Exr Initials | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of First Inventor of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY |
| | Number | Kind Code (if known) | | |
| | 6,011,762 | | Watanabe, et al. | 01-2000 |
| | 6,298,019 | B1 | Watanabe, et al. | 10-2001 |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Exr Initials | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY | T ₁ |
| | Country Code | Number | Kind Code (if known) | | | |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | |
|---|---|----------------|
| Exr Initials | Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published. | T ₁ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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